Book reviews


In our notice of volumes 1 and 2 we described Professor Hudson’s book as an astonishing *magnum opus*; the addition of volume 3 just five years later leads us to the verge of incredulity! We gently chided Professor Hudson for adding to the enormous length of his work by including such things as postmortem room technique, photographic technique, and detailed accounts of quite common microorganisms; but the spots have not changed and the new volume includes accounts of the ultrastructure of living matter, the genetic code, and the classification of proteins. This attitude contributes significantly to the size and cost of the three volumes and frankly these marginally relevant subjects would be better studied in the many specialized monographs available.

The new volume is described as a ‘supplement’ to the former work and has been produced as the alternative to a complete second edition. We congratulate the author and publishers on this arrangement, for, though the cost is high, it is clearly less than that of a new edition would have been. Furthermore it has enabled quicker publication with the result that the new volume is much more up to date than most large volumes are by the time they are in the reader’s hands.

The contents of the new volume are arranged in 43 chapters corresponding to those of the original volumes. In each a comprehensive review of recent work on the subject is given and references to the pages in the earlier volumes are provided. The result is a thoroughly up-to-date presentation at the reader’s disposal. The author suggests that information on a required subject should first be sought in the new volume.

As one of the main uses of these volumes will be as a source of references it is to be regretted that no index of names is included, but there can be no doubt at all that, like its predecessors, this work is of the greatest value to all interested in cardiac pathology.

T. CRAWFORD


This book is an account of the 53rd meeting of the German Society of Pathology, in which the main theme was intestinal malabsorption. The book is beautifully printed and illustrated and every chapter begins with a summary in English. This volume should be read by those having a special interest in the pathology of intestinal malabsorption but there are also interesting articles in the field of experimental pathology and cancer research.

The papers on pancreatitis and lesions of the liver, experimental aspects of hepatitis, and the pathology of atherosclerosis are particularly outstanding. The papers on malabsorption include an excellent review on morphology and pathogenesis as well as the importance of epithelial regeneration and differentiation in the normal and abnormal function of the small bowel. There are also well presented articles on the biochemistry and histochemistry of the small intestine in malabsorption and an outstanding paper on the physiology and pathology of mucus formation in the intestine.

For those pathologists speaking the German language the book is strongly recommended but for those who do not speak it the summaries in English together with the illustrations give a good idea of the content.

B. MORSON


The scope of this book is wider than the title suggests and many parts will be of greater value to clinicians than to pathologists. There is much to criticize in the way some of the pathological processes are classified and that the esoteric trends are overemphasized at the expense of the ordinary. It is a great pity the account of the UICC classification of epithelial tumours, which many hope will have wide acceptance, is so inadequate. There are several obvious inaccuracies, and irritating discrepancies between tables and their related texts. Despite these shortcomings, the book can be recommended as a useful source of up-to-date references.

R. C. B. PUGH

Notices

The International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

The second meeting of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis will be held in Oslo, Norway, from 12 to 17 July 1971. The scientific sessions will include papers on the main topics and free communications of original research and small group discussions. Participation is open to all scientists interested.

For further information concerning membership write to James M. Stenble, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis, National Heart and Lung Institute, Bethesda, Maryland 20014, U.S.A., and for all matters pertaining to the congress to the Secretariat, Second Conference of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis, Institute for Thrombosis Research, Rikshospitalet, Oslo, Norway.

European Division of the International Society of Haematology

The first meeting of the European Division of the International Society of Haematology will be held from 10 to 12 September, 1971 in Milan (Italy). The main subjects will be the haemolytic anaemias and the lymphocytes.

For further information, registration, abstracts and abstract forms, please contact A. Tavio Maio, Secretary of the First Meeting of the European Division of ISH, Istituto di Patologia Medica, Via Pia 15, 20122 Milano (Italy).

Price Correction

The price of *Reprint No. 2, ‘The perinatal postmortem examination’,* by F. A. Langley published in March (J. clin. Path., 1971, 24, 159) is incorrectly stated in the footnote. The price is 25p, and the reprint can be obtained from the Publishing Manager, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, the envelope marked, *Journal of Clinical Pathology, BROADSHEETS.*